

Serial No. 10/507,069
LEE.018
Letter dated June 2, 2008

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

Yong-Soo Park et al.

Group Art Unit: 1742

Serial No.: 10/507,069

Examiner: S. Ip

Filed: March 22, 2005

Confirm. No.: 2661

For: HIGH-GRADE DUPLEX STAINLESS STEEL WITH MUCH SUPPRESSED
FORMATION OF INTERMETALLIC PHASES AND HAVING AN EXCELLENT
CORROSION RESISTANCE, EMBRITTLEMENT RESISTANCE, CASTABILITY
AND HOT WORKABILITY

LETTER RESPONSIVE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

****via e-filing****

Randolph Building

401 Dulany Street

Alexandria, VA 22314

ATTENTION: SPE Roy V. King

Date: June 2, 2008

Sir:

The following comments are offered responsive to the Notice of Non-Compliant
Amendment dated May 12, 2008.

As stated on page 2 of the Notice, the Examiner has alleged that the
Amendment dated January 22, 2008, is non-responsive to the prior Office Action,
because **"Applicants fail specifically pointed out the support for amendments
such as "suppresses formation...sigma and khi phases" in claims 1 and 4"**. The
Examiner has directed attention to 37 C.F.R. 1.121; 37 C.F.R. 41.37 (c)(1)(v); MPEP

section 714.02; and MPEP section 2411.01(B).

Applicants however respectfully submit that none of the above noted rules or MPEP sections require that an applicant identifies support in an application for amendments made to claims. The above noted rules and MPEP sections mentioned by the Examiner are irrelevant with respect to this issue. None of these rules or MPEP guidelines state or even remotely suggest that failure to identify support in an application for claim amendments would render an amendment non-responsive. **The Examiner's holding that the Amendment dated January 22, 2008, is non-responsive is thus clearly erroneous, and should be withdrawn.**

Although Applicants do not concede that the holding of the Amendment as Non-responsive is proper, suppressing formation of intermetallic phases including sigma and khi phases is described generally in an introductory manner in the Technical Field section of the application on page 1; and in more detail on page 6, lines 6-8 and lines 14-15; page 9, line 14 through to page 11, line 17 (particularly see page 11, lines 4-8); page 13, lines 1-3; and page 15, lines 10-11, for example.

Applicants respectfully submit that even a cursory review of the application would reveal clear support for the above noted amendments to claims 1 and 4. It is unclear how the Amendment dated January 22, 2008, could possibly be considered non-responsive.

Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, and to promptly examine this application without any

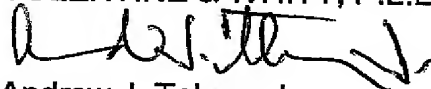
further unjustifiable delay. **The Examiner is further respectfully requested to provide an Interview Summary confirming that the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment has been withdrawn, as discussed during the telephone interview with Supervisor Roy King on May 29, 2008.**

In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, please contact Andrew J. Telesz, Jr. (Reg. No. 33,581) at (571) 283-0720 in the Washington, D.C. area, to discuss these matters.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment for any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0238.

Respectfully submitted,

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